

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 22. (canceled).

23. (currently amended): A printer comprising:

a detector configured to detect that a printer cable is unplugged regardless of whether a transmission of printing data has started, where the printer cable is adapted to connect to a computer;

an interface configured to receive the printing data;

a data buffer configured to temporarily store the printing data received from the computer; and

a clearer configured to clear the data buffer if the detector detects that the printer cable is unplugged after ~~a~~ the transmission of the printing data has started, and not to clear the data buffer if the detector detects that the printer cable is unplugged when the transmission of the printing data has not started,

wherein the detector is upstream of the data buffer.

24. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 23, further comprising:

an initializer configured to initialize the interface for receiving the printing data when clearing the data buffer.

25. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 24, further comprising:
an ejector configured to eject paper stopped in printing operation when clearing the data buffer.

26. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 23, further comprising:
a print start detector configured to detect a start of the transmission of the printing data in accordance with a start signal which is received from the computer.

27. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 26, wherein the detector monitors a voltage of a power bus of the printer cable, and judges that the printer cable is unplugged when the voltage is not detected.

28. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 26, wherein the start signal is a device ID request which the computer transmits for confirming a model of the printer.

29. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 26, wherein the start signal is a predetermined string which the computer transmits before a start of the transmission of the printing data.

30. (previously presented): The printer according to claim 23, wherein the printer does not have a power switch for a user to turn ON/OFF a power supply and does not have a control panel for the user to operate for clearing the printing data stored in the data buffer.

31. (currently amended): A control method of a printer, comprising:
detecting by a detector that a printer cable is unplugged regardless of whether a transmission of printing data is started, where the printer cable is adapted to connect to a computer;
receiving the printing data;
temporarily storing the printing data in a data buffer; and
clearing the data buffer if it is detected that the printer cable is unplugged after a transmission of the printing data has started, and not clearing the data buffer if it is detected that the printer cable is unplugged when the transmission of the printing data has not started,
wherein the detector is upstream of the data buffer.

32. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 31, further comprising: initializing an interface for receiving the printing data when clearing the data buffer.

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33. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 32, further comprising: ejecting paper stopped in printing operation when clearing the data buffer.

34. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 31, further comprising: detecting a start of the transmission of the printing data in accordance with a start signal which is received from the computer.

35. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 34, further comprising: monitoring a voltage of a power bus of the printer cable; and judging that the printer cable is unplugged when the voltage is not detected.

36. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 34, wherein the start signal is a device ID request which the computer transmits for confirming a model of the printer.

37. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 34, wherein the start signal is a predetermined string which the computer transmits before a start of the transmission of the printing data.

38. (previously presented): The control method of the printer according to claim 31, wherein the printer does not have a power switch for a user to turn ON/OFF a power supply and

does not have a control panel for the user to operate for clearing the printing data stored in the data buffer.

39. (currently amended): The printer according to claim 23, wherein the detector is spatially positioned in an upstream direction of the data buffer and wherein the printing data in the data buffer, where said printing data is downstream from the detector, is cleared by the clearer.

40. (currently amended): The method according to claim 31, wherein ~~a~~the detector detecting that the cable is unplugged is positioned spatially upstream with respect to the data buffer and wherein the printing data in the data buffer, where said printing data is downstream of the detector, is cleared by the clearer.

41. (new): A printer comprising:

a USB interface configured to connect to a computer via a data line for printing data and a VBUS line;

a data buffer configured to temporarily store the printing data received from the computer;

a referrer configured to refer to an information based on the VBUS line regardless of whether a transmission of printing data has started, wherein the referrer judges that the data line upstream of the data buffer is unplugged from the computer based on the information; and

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a clearer configured to clear the data buffer if the data line is unplugged after the transmission of the printing data has started, and not to clear the data buffer if the data line is unplugged when the transmission of the printing data has not started.